

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY BOTTOMLEY, OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVED LUBRICATING MATERIAL FOR WOOL.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 48,509, dated July 4, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY BOTTOMLEY, of Camden, Camden county, New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Lubricating Wool; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention consists in the use for lubricating wool preparatory to carding and spinning the same of the secretion extracted from the wool, so as to dispense with the usual costly lubricating materials.

It is well-known that wool contains from twenty to forty per cent. of what is known as "yolk," secreted by the animal, this secretion consisting of soapy matter with an excess of oil. Before wool can be dyed and subjected to other preparatory treatments—this secretion must be removed—an operation usually accomplished by washing the wool in an alkaline lye, which, after taking up the soapy matter of the wool, has been hitherto thrown away as useless. I have discovered that this matter can be used to the best advantage in oiling the wool preparatory to carding or spinning the same.

Several modes of preparing the secretion for application to the wool may be adopted. The wool, for instance, may be simply washed in an alkaline lye, as usual, and the composition resulting from the union of the lye with the secretion may be applied directly to the wool preparatory to carding or spinning the same, or the secretion may be removed from the wool by simply washing and rinsing the same in warm water, with or without the addition of a portion of common salt, the solution thus obtained to be applied directly to the wool or laid aside for future use. The secretion may

be forced from the wool by first heating the latter and then subjecting it to pressure between rollers or other appliances, the matter thus obtained being of about the consistency of ordinary tallow, and admitting of being purified preparatory to its application to the wool, or the soapy matter thus obtained may be mixed with alkaline lye, or with olive-oil, lard-oil, or other material heretofore used for lubricating wool. After many practical tests I have found that this secretion applied to the lubrication of wool serves the desired purpose much better than lard-oil or any of the preparations of borax and water or other fluids. I have found, too, that the secretion extracted from the wool is available as a lubricant for machinery.

The economy resulting from the practice of my invention will become apparent when it is borne in mind that there is in wool nearly twice as much of the fatty and soapy secretion as is necessary for the oiling of the wool preparatory to carding or spinning, and that this valuable matter has been heretofore discarded as useless to make way for other and more costly lubricating materials.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The use for lubricating wool preparatory to carding or spinning the same of the secretion extracted from the wool.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY BOTTOMLEY.

Witnesses:

HENRY HOWSON,
W. J. R. DELANY.